Lovely Strange Dark

# ULTRABAROQUE DEPROGRAMMER

## BY ITOU SEIKOU & ASADA TORAO

## CHAPTER 17

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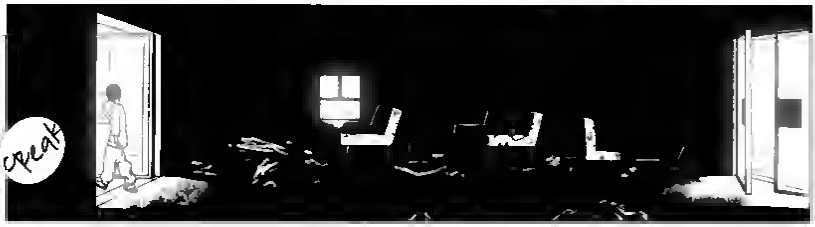
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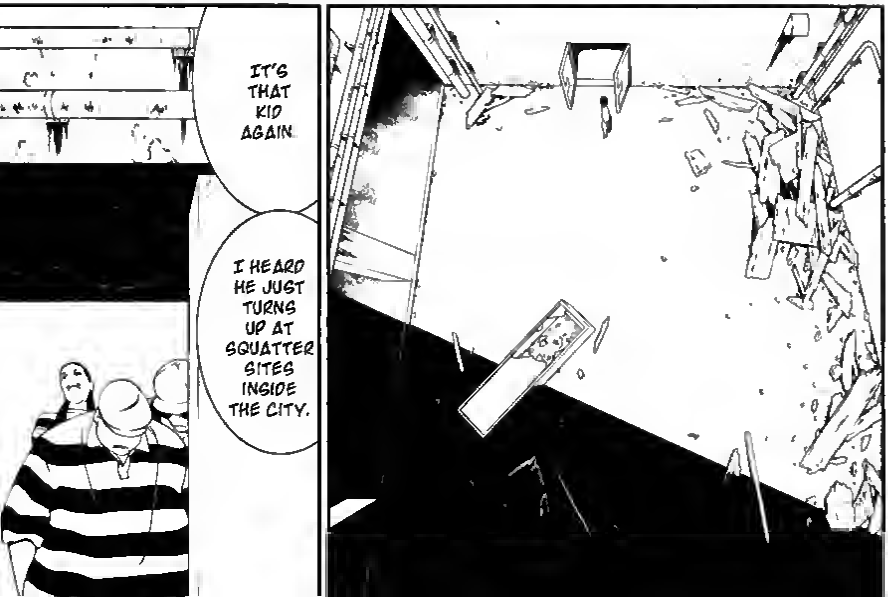
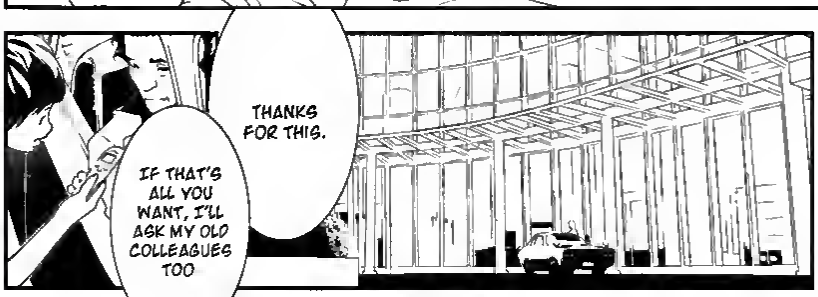

IT'S THAT KID AGAIN.
I HEARD HE JUST TURNS UP AT SQUATTER SITES INSIDE THE CITY.

LET'S GRAB HIM AND MAKE OURSELVES A QUICK BUCK.

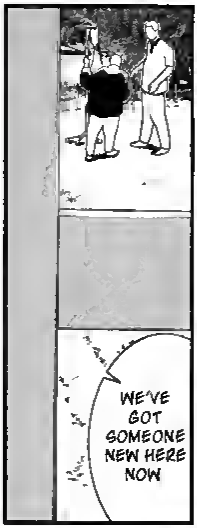

THANKS FOR THIS.
IF THAT'S ALL YOU WANT, I'LL ASK MY OLD COLLEAGUES TOO

BUT I'VE LEFT THAT WORLD BEHIND

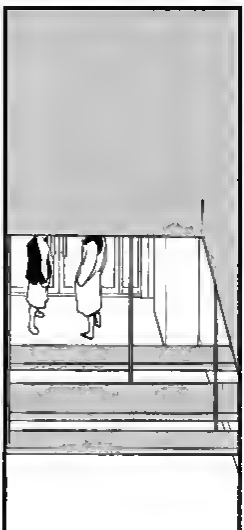
WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?
AH... NO, IT'S NOTHING.
SORRY I CAN'T HELP YOU OUT IT'S NO SMALL THING, HAVING YOUR SYSTEM CRASHED AND BEING ON THE RUN.

# CHAPTER 17 ● MULTIPLE PSY MATRIX ⑥

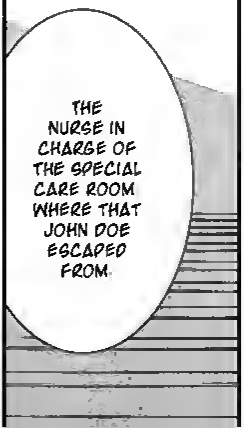
ST. AUGUSTI
HOSPIT
"St. Augustine Hospital"


WE'VE GOT SOMEONE NEW HERE NOW

HIS NAME IS SAKAKI.
OH, THE ONE WITH THOSE THICK BLACK GLASSES! I THINK HE'S ON ANOTHER SHIFT.



LIKE YOU KNOW HOW WE DO OUR JOBS DOWN IN THE STREETS!


THE NURSE IN CHARGE OF THE SPECIAL CARE ROOM WHERE THAT JOHN DOE ESCAPED FROM.

IF WASHERS AND OEDRO-GRAMMERS ARE REALLY WORKING AT THIS HOSPITAL...
HMM?
WHAT DID YOU SAY TO YUUZOU?
IT WAS ABOUT NOBIRU..
I THINK HE MIGHT BE WANDERING AROUND THE SQUATTER SITES IN TOKYO.
D'YOU THINK HE'S TURNING TRICKS TO GET BY?
WOW, YOU REALLY DO THINK LIKE A SLEAZE-BALL

So I asked him to check and see if he could find any rumors about Nobiru
I'VE HEARD THERE ARE PLACES WHERE SQUATTERS GATHER IN YUUZOU'S NEIGHBOR-HOOD, TOO.
HUH
ANY-WAY.
I'M JUST BEING REALISTIC HERE!
WITH THAT VOICE OF HIS, NOBIRU'S GONNA STAND OUT NO MATTER WHERE HE GOES
HE'LL GET NOTICED BY FOLKS IN YOUR OLD LINE OF WORK
MOVING ON.
ISN'T YOUR ATTITUDE KINDA SHITTY TODAY?

CHIKA'S REALLY LOADED
I WAS SO WASTED THIS MORNING I DIDN'T ACTUALLY LOOK AROUND
THIS PLACE IS REALLY SOMETHING, HUH?
FOR REAL??
DON'T THOSE TYPES PRETTY MUCH ALL BECOME CROOKED POLITICIANS OR RUN WITH THE MAFIA?
THE GUYS AT THE NURSES' STATION
MENTIONED SHE'S FROM A REALLY RICH FAMILY
NONE OF THE ABOVE!

I GET THAT YOU'RE GIDDY FROM LACK OF SLEEP, BUT TO MAKE THIS MUCH OF A MESS...
CHIKA, I MADE SOME CURRY! YOUR FAVORITE GREEN CURRY!
I HELPED MYSELF TO SOME BEER~
WELCOME HOME——
HE'S A NICE GUY!
THAT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH IT! I'M TALKING ABOUT WORK!
I DO REMEMBER MEETING A LOT OF GUYS LIKE HIM.
HE'S A TYPICAL THIRD-RATE WASHER.
Huff
WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?
I DIDN'T MEAN TO. YOU KNOW, HIS SON ALSO USED TO BE IN THE BUSINESS.
I ONLY REMEMBER FRAGMENTS OF MY PAST, SO I HESITATE TO SAY THIS, BUT...
OH...
IT WAS AWFUL. THE DEPROGRAMMER WAS SULKING THE WHOLE TIME.
SO, DID YOU GET TO MEET TATEHARA?
HIS SON. THE ELDER TATEHARA PASSED AWAY.

MAKE A NEURO-CAVE——
HUH?
...YOU...
NEURO-WHAT??
IN CASES WHERE A PSY OPERATION IS REQUIR-ED——
WAS I SAYING SOMETHING?

tug tug
wobble
tug
YOU FIND OUT YOUR OLD TEACHER DIED,
AND YOU JUST RAMBLE AWAY LIKE IT'S NOTHING.

PEOPLE DEAL WITH DEATH IN LOTS OF WAYS.
AND I'D BE BROKEN UP IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO THEM.
I'VE GOT SOME PEOPLE IN THAILAND,
YEAH...
I'M JUST NOT THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO GETS DEPRESSED OVER IT...
GULP
THAT'S JUST ME
HEY, THAT'S MY GLASS!
...CALAVERA.
IT'S TIME TO QUIT CRYING YOU HAVE BULBS TO PLANT.
THUMP

TATEHARA HATED WHEN PEOPLE SULKED, YOU KNOW.
HERE'S A TISSUE.
GLOOM
GLOOM
.....
CALAVERA.
Roll
Roll
Roll
Roll
toot
.....

AIR MAIL
THIS WAS DELIVERED TO TATEHARA'S PLACE
I'VE GOT A LETTER OPENER SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE.
WAIT!
HUH? WHY HAVEN'T YOU OPENED IT?
...WELL... I WANTED TO PREPARE MYSELF.
THERE MIGHT BE ANSWERS IN THERE!
YOU CAN'T JUST READ IT——
I'M ONLY OPENING IT.
2P

ドドドドド
?
SOME-
THING
SMELLS
NICE.

RUMM
!
...THIS SMELL...
click
KAP

AA
AA
AA
A
HUH?
AA
AA
AA
AA
AA
!?!
crunch

CALAVERA, LOOK!
IT'S GROWING!
FROM THE SIDES AND VERTICALLY.

AA
AA
A
WAVE
WAVE
THEY'RE ALL BACK.
THERE'S RUSSIAN, SPANISH, ITALIAN, FRENCH, AND MANDARIN.
IT'S ALL THE DATA FROM YOU AND ME AND THE DEPROGRAMMER THAT THE PROTECTOR LOCKED AWAY
DII! THIS IS...
THNK
THNK
THNK

Ultrabaroque Deprogrammer 2 End